

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner, Mr. Christopher C. Pratt, for his courtesies extended during the telephonic interview conducted on July 14, 2003, and for his continued assistance in advance the prosecution of the application subsequent to the interview. During the interview, claim 1 and the 112, 2nd ¶ rejections thereto were discussed. Claims 1-3, 5, and 8-14 are pending. Claims 1-3, and 8-14 have been amended as agreed to during the telephonic interview. No new matter has been added by way of this amendment. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-3, 5, 8-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd ¶ as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In response to this rejection, Applicant has amended the claims in a manner which is believed to address each specific rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should be in condition for allowance. Early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. However, if there are any questions regarding this Response, or the application in general, a telephone call to the

undersigned would be appreciated since this would expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

Dated: July 18, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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